

Message Text

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EXDIS, MIL ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, TU

SUBJECT: TURKEY AND THE DPC

1. TURKEY HAS RESPONDED IN NATO CONTEXT TO OUR CUTOFF OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN PART BY COMPLAINING THAT WE HAVE COME TO THE VERGE OF UNILATERALLY ABROGATING ARTICLE 3 OF NATO TREATY; BY LABELING US ACTION QTE AN EMBARGO, UNQTE AND BY SUGGESTING THAT US ACTION CALLS INTO QUESTION US-TURKISH BILATERAL DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT. (ARTICLE 3 OF NATO TREATY READS: QTE IN ORDER MORE EFFECTIVELY TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS TREATY, THE PARTIES, SEPARATELY AND JOINTLY, BY MEANS OF CONTINUOUS AND EFFECTIVE SELF-HELP AND MUTUAL AID, WILL MAINTAIN AND DEVELOP THEIR INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE CAPACITY TO RESIST ARMED ATTACK. UNQTE).

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2. WE INTERPRET TURKEY'S REACTION IN NATO TO US AID CUTOFF AS AN EFFORT ON ITS PART TO FURTHER DEMONSTRATE -- PARTLY FOR EVENTUAL PUBLIC CONSUMPTION -- THAT IT IS NOT POWERLESS TO RESPOND. IT MAY BE POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, TO TURN TURKISH INITIATIVE TO US -- AND TURKEY'S -- ADVANTAGE BY HAVING THE ALLIES IN THE DPC FRAMEWORK PROMPTLY UNDERTAKE TO DETERMINE HOW TURKEY'S NATO-RELATED MILITARY NEEDS CAN BE MET BY THE ALLIES SO AS TO ASSIST TURKEY IN MAINTAINING ITS MILITARY CAPABILITIES. MOREOVER, DPC ATTENTION

HOPEFULLY WOULD BE DIVERTED FROM UNPRODUCTIVE DISCUSSION OF LEGAL ISSUES TURKEY HAS RAISED. FURTHER, IN LIGHT OF POSSIBILITY THAT TURKEY MAY ENVISAGE WITHDRAWAL FROM DPC ACTIVITIES (USNATO 999), WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT TO MAXIMIZE INSTITUTIONAL ATTRACTIVENESS OF DPC TO TURKEY.

3. FOR USNATO: ACCORDINGLY, PROCEEDING FIRST AS YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE WITH LUNS OR IN HIS ABSENCE WITH ACTING SYG AND THE TURKISH PERMREP, YOU SHOULD PROPOSE THAT ALLIES AGREE PROMPTLY TO CONSIDER TURKEY'S NATO-RELATED MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND FUND NEEDS IN LIGHT OF ACTION TAKEN BY CONGRESS, WHICH REQUIRES US TO CUT OFF MILITARY ASSISTANCE. YOU MIGHT ELABORATE BY COMMENTING THAT:

-- WE SEE THIS AS A WHOLLY PRACTICAL EFFORT ON PART OF DPC AND WE WILL COOPERATE TO THE FULL EXTENT ALLOWED BY US LAW.

-- IN LATTER CONNECTION, THE ADMINISTRATION STRONGLY FAVORS RESUMPTION BY US OF MILITARY SUPPLIES TO TURKEY. IN ITS ABSENCE, TURKEY IS LESS ABLE TO MEET ITS NATO COMMITMENTS AND CONSEQUENTLY THE OVERALL ALLIANCE DEFENSE EFFORT IS HARMED. WE ARE WORKING URGENTLY TO PERSUADE CONGRESS TO RESCIND OR MODIFY PRESENT LEGISLATION, BUT WE CANNOT PREDICT TO WHAT EXTENT THE ADMINISTRATION WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IN THESE EFFORTS NOR WHEN CONGRESS WILL ACT.

-- WE DO NOT CONSIDER IT ADVANTAGEOUS FOR TURKEY OR FOR THE OTHER ALLIES TO ENGAGE IN A DISCUSSION OF US CONSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURES OR OF WHETHER US OR TURKEY HAVE SOMEHOW

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FAILED TO ACT IN CONFORMITY WITH THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY. YOU SHOULD CONTINUE STRONGLY TO OPPOSE ANY SUCH LINE OF INQUIRY. (TO TURKISH PERMREP OR OTHERWISE PRIVATELY YOU MIGHT ADD THAT FULL DISCUSSION OF LEGAL ISSUES WILL NECESSARILY RENEW DEBATE OVER TURKISH RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER US-TURKISH MILITARY ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS.)

4. IN THE DAYS AHEAD, WE WILL BE PREPARING FOR YOU A MORE DETAILED RUNDOWN OF OUR CURRENT EFFORTS TO DEVELOP ACCEPTABLE LEGISLATION WITH CONGRESS. WE WILL ALSO BE SENDING SPECIFICATIONS AS TO THIRD COUNTRY AND OTHER RESTRAINTS IMPOSED ON USG UNDER CURRENT LEGISLATION WITH RESPECT TO SHIPMENTS TO TURKEY.

5. FOR ANKARA: YOU MAY DRAW ON FOREGOING IN YOUR ONGOING DISCUSSIONS WITH GOT ECEVIT AND OTHER TURKISH LEADERS.

6. FYI SECRETARY RAISED ISSUE OF DPC DISCUSSION OF ALLIED ASSISTANCE FOR TURKEY WITH SYG LUNS FEBRUARY 25, AND LUNS AGREED AND SAID HE WOULD RAISE THE ISSUE ON HIS RETURN. END FYI. KISSINGER

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